

LOYOLA AFRICA CLUB



MONTHLY JOURNAL

~ THE WALK ~

The Oxfam Youth Committee has put its first major project on road, the "Walk". The funds will go for:

1-A reforestation project on the island of La Gonave, Haiti, that will create a viable economy for the population by planting 25,000 citrus trees.

2-A solar distillation plant to provide decent drinking water for the population and to assist in irrigating the reforested land.

3-To assist an orphanage in Brazil by setting up a small poultry farm behind the building and to provide badly needed repairs.

4-To finance Crossroads volunteers from Loyola with the funds collected over the amount required by the other projects.

The total cost of the first three projects is \$8,000.00 and they will help 15,000 people.

This is one of the few opportunities we will be able to accomplish a worthy project in a total effort. We all abhor the abject poverty two-thirds of the world suffers. We readily philosophise on what could and should be done. Now is our chance to turn one part of the world into the garden where the ideals we speak of can be lived by those we will walk for.

It will be a cold and possibly rainy Saturday.....one day when we could sleep in....watch T.V....go hunting.....it will be twenty miles.....we'll have to get the courage up to solicit help....It won't be easy.....Most students used the handout as scrap paper, or threw it away because it was in their way when they came to eat lunch! The cliché of "...give a damn..." applies.

If you have the guts to give a bit of your time and energy for anyone but you, there are plenty of booklets in the Africa Club Office...plenty of people.....

ONGIVING A DAMN

There have been a record number of resignations and threats of resigning from executives and heads of societies. The President of Commerce resigned and the new heads were acclaimed. There is one vacant seat on the Board of Directors and the number who voted and ran is pathetic. The Presidency of S.A.M. is up for grabs for a third time in less than a year. On "Join Day" most society heads were deceived by the so-called "Joiners!" The amount of work put in by the members within the Africa Club itself is a good indication.

One of the greatest opportunities for students here to fulfill themselves and to help others, the Oxfam Youth Committee, saw only 12 people join, and four do the work. Thirty-five signed up but only ten do the work. (Africa Club).

I can easily understand that not

all or many students should join the Africa Club, but the total disregard of an activity that would mobilize this College to do something worthwhile and to treat its pleas of help as tissue paper to be thrown away and walked on irks me. The pleas made for the walk and the canvassing campaign are not those of the Africa Club or myself, but the supplications of the starving millions.

Cornball....idealistic.....just plain corn.....I'm bugging you.....they are bugging you.....and you don't give a damn.

Apparently time is a great impediment to student involvement.....after all those hour-long prof. critiques are essential to the well-being of the Caf. chairs.

It all boils down to what you and me are doing here. It is easy to go to all the socials and pass. It's another to organize events for the benefit of others and pass. Do zip-all now and that's what you'll be.

James Paul,
Chairman.

Marcel Nouvet Gives A Damn!

Very soon you will be called on to vote for or against our student President and his Executives. We the undersigned support Mr. Nouvet for the following reasons: He has taken unpopular decisions to some, popular for others, but he made them trying to benefit the student body; the radical decentralization plan left most society heads high and dry, but provision was made with the contingency fund; the idea was to give the students the use of their money; when referendums came out soliciting the \$5.50 for the Major societies, provision was made for the minor societies and the votes were carefully scrutinized to rule out injustice; close to half the students opposed the strike but most supported the issues; In short Marcel Nouvet has looked out for our interests as much as possible and now needs your and our support. He had the guts to stick up for us; let's do the same for him. Should he be forced to resign, ours will follow.

James Paul
James Paul
Loyola Africa
Club, Chairman
And Executive.

Allen S. Roberts
Allen Roberts
Commerce Students
Association, Pres.
And Executive.

Peter Lonergan
Peter Lonergan, President,
Loyola Arts Student Association.
and Executive.

A.S.A. RACIST?

One of the most disturbing and likewise refreshing events that occurred this month was the "International Meeting On African Studies" held at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel from October 15-18 inclusive.

The Congress consisted of: Panel discussions; with and without paper presentations; dealing with past and present Africa, film presentations, and receptions.

On Wednesday all was well until the Black participants from Africa and the United States began to see the obvious lack of Africans on the panels. The conference was only beginning then and I was trapped in a stuffy archeological study of the Sudan circa 3000 B.C.

On Thursday the discontent was rampant. At a large panel on Biafra, there was only one Black and he had only the role of "Discussant", or two minutes out of every hour and a half. The speakers spent their time telling the Africans how to solve their problems. Two of them talked about the dangers of the population explosion and called for the development of the petroleum resources of Nigeria. This is something the white oil companies would cherish.

Black and white delegates showed extreme resentment when it was learned that the Blacks were not invited on the panels by the board of directors of the African Studies Association. When the moderator was asked if there was to be a more detailed political discussion on the Nigeria-Biafra war he said that there was to be one at 5:00 P.M. but that he didn't remember where, the resentment turned into concrete action when they took over the microphones in the plenary session at 5:00.

Friday morning all the delegates and speakers came in as usual, but suddenly groups of Blacks began to break up meetings peacefully. The first to go was the discussion on South Africa which had South Africans and Rhodesians as panelists. Politically it looked as though the A.S.A. was recognizing the outlaw elements of the governments of the world.

Projectors were turned off, screens rolled down and confusion reigned supreme. At 1:00 P.M. a white caucus was held and the whole mess was clarified with the whites supporting the Blacks. All present (100) agreed to support the resolutions of the Black Caucus held the night before. The white caucus also agreed to call for an investigation of the structures of the A.S.A.

A mass meeting was called prior to the caucus to vote on the re-structuring of the Board to have 50% Blacks and 50% whites. The yes's had it. The leader of the Black Caucus spoke to the White caucus and clarified the purposes underlying the disruption of the Congress. The fact that the panels were all-white thereby implying that the A.S.A. was a "White thing", and that the board offered to appoint three Africans to the Board and leave nine positions open for election insulted everyone.

The fellows of the association, faced with the mass support shown for the Blacks, changed their decision and gave in to their proposals. An investigating committee was set up with 15 Blacks and 15 whites to look into the set-up of the A.S.A.

It's about time we whites stopped defining the Africans to themselves and let them educate us about them.

ZIMBABWE

One of the greatest archaeological finds and one of the most meaningful today is the ruins of ZIMBABWE. The five W's apply fully and in there lie the solutions to the dilemma of Rhodesia.

The basic dilemma is this: The white minority in Rhodesia bases its right of hegemony over the African majority on the premise that the Africans have no history, that they, the whites have come to show the lazy savages the right way to sweetness and light. When one asks about the ruins they claim that the Phoenicians built the place.

Archaeologists disagree because the structures are unique and artifactual have been found that are Indian and Chinese in origin. The Portuguese reported having heard of a great kingdom in the interior where gold was smelted and where there was a highly centralized political system led by the "Monopotamo". They also reported to have had dealings with him.

The ruins themselves are impressive there are buildings that served as defenses against attack which have walls carved out of nearby granite quarries, measuring thirty feet in height and sixteen feet thick. Other oval-shaped structures evidently were for religious services.

The peoples who built the cities that dot Rhodesia had to know some form of geometry and had the use of machines. They smelted gold in the nearby hills and had an overland trade route whereby they obtained goods from Asia. This disqualifies the myth that Africans are inherently slothful and have had no history. The structures date back to 700 A.D. and it is widely held that the society there was destroyed circa 1700. Historians, in analysing the language and oral

traditions, believe that the strong centralized government broke down owing to internal rivalries and the pressures of holding on to an extended empire. What followed was something similar to what had occurred in the case of the Roman Empire; a dark age of anarchy and lack of creativity.

What the Europeans encountered was a society worn out by the wars between the Matebele and Mashona nations, which, particularly in the case of the Matabele, had a strong system of government which was able to resist meaningful European penetration until 1896.

The Europeans 'conned' the Africans and when the latter learned of it, ruthlessly suppressed them by force. Their whole claim to the land by treaty died when Britain denounced the treaties as illegal and unbinding. The only appealing (?) argument the whites could find other than economic exploitation, was that the heathen African would benefit from the paternalistic white rule and the Christian religion which holds that Christ is a blond-haired blue-eyed Caucasian.

The Rhodesian (white) mentality is but a vivid picture of the masked bigotry the western world has lived with for so long. Why for instance are the Ibo people called a "Tribe" when they number 15,000,000 and the Norwegians a "Nation" and they number 3,000,000? Why are they called savage because they use spears in warfare (in remote parts) and we are "civilized" because we use napalm?

The truth is that the white minority in Rhodesia will not give up its power and privileges in according majority rule because they would have to lose those privileges